AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A composition comprising a plurality of recombinant nucleocapsid protein monomers, the primary sequence of which are derived from duck hepatitis B virus (HBV), wherein at least a first portion of said monomers ~~includes at least one~~ has been genetically altered such that a first non-HBV hapten has been inserted into its amino acid sequence, and wherein said monomers may be assembled to form a particle antigenic with respect to said hapten.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein at least a second portion of said nucleocapsid protein monomers ~~includes~~ comprises a second non-HBV hapten different from said first non-HBV hapten inserted into its amino acid sequence.

Claims 4-9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said first non-HBV hapten is associated with a disease condition caused by an agent selected from the group consisting of: single stranded DNA viruses, double stranded DNA viruses, single stranded RNA viruses, double stranded RNA viruses, intracellular parasites, fungi, bacteria, and cancer.

Claim 11 (Currently amended) The composition of claim 3 wherein said second non-HBV hapten is associated with a disease condition caused by agent selected from the group consisting of single stranded DNA viruses, double stranded DNA viruses, single stranded RNA viruses, double stranded RNA viruses, intracellular parasites, fungi, bacteria, and cancer.

Claim 12 (Currently amended) The composition of claim ~~1~~ 3 ~~further comprising~~ wherein said first and second haptens and said particle ~~is~~ are assembled as an extrinsic mosaic.

Claim 13 (Currently amended) The composition of claim ~~1~~ 3 ~~further comprising first and second non-HBV haptens intrinsic to said nucleocapsid protein monomers and~~ wherein said first and second haptens and said particle ~~is~~ are assembled as an intrinsic mosaic.

Claims 14-23 (Cancelled)

Claim 24 (Currently amended) A composition comprising

recombinant duck HBcAg; and

a non-HBV hapten, said hapten being linked to said duck HbcAg; and

wherein said recombinant duck HbcAg is capable of disassembly

and reassembly into ~~a~~ an immunogenic particle.

Claim 25 The composition of claim 24 wherein said duck HbcAg is assembled into a particle.

Claim 26 (Cancelled)

Claim 27 (Previously presented) The composition of claim 24 wherein said hapten is proteinaceous.

Claims 28-29 (Cancelled)